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positive changes. By all means, please license additional low-frequency, low-power FM radio stations. Certainly we need more.

But the larger questions are going to require something much more significant than that. There is nothing in the way of positive social change that happens without the involvement of committed citizens, and they sometimes do it without the media; but most of the time the media makes it easier and better. There is no limit to the amount of positive social change that we could get by with, that we could endure.

We need better service from the media in the United States. And in this community. You know, the problem has been identified here tonight. Any time a tyrant takes over a government in the last century, the first thing they do is grab the television stations. We don't have a tyrant, but we do have control by vested moneyed interests, and we need to work on that.

You've mentioned the Public Trust Doctrine. In your communications, that might be one vehicle to reinvigorate that and use the Public Trust Doctrine.

Thank you very much.

(Audience applause.)

MR. ENSSLIN: Thank you, Jon.

At this point, we've heard from everyone who signed

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the registration to give two minute speeches. So I will recognize our Chair tonight, Commissioner Copps.

COMMISSIONER COPPS: Thank you, Clyde. First let me thank you for doing a difficult job so well, and I think we all ought to give you a round of applause.

(Audience applause.)

Now, this was really an interesting evening. I think you could almost call it a tale of two evenings. First the world of Maine media as seen through the eyes of broadcasters, and then the world of Maine media as seen through the eyes of everybody else.

(Audience applause.)

And it's interesting, it's almost as if they were trying to tell us, it's not the worst of times, as Dickens would say, but I hope they weren't trying to tell us it's the best of times, either.

And I'm reminded of what -- the question one of our commenters asked, is this as good as it gets. I am happy, don't get me wrong, that the broadcasters were here this evening. For a while it seemed that they were boycotting these meetings. So I'm glad they're back, and I hope they will come again.

But I would repeat the injunction that my friend, Commissioner Adelstein, said earlier, when they come, we really have to seriously engage the issues that have

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been raised here for the last couple of hours, which go to how those public airwaves are going to be used to reflect the diversity of our culture and the localism of our communities, and the vitality of our democratic dialogue.

These are fundamentally serious issues. I think that they've been well addressed in the last couple of hours. They should have been that well addressed, I think, through the whole course of the evening. We do applaud the many good things that broadcasters do, and we heard a lot of that here tonight. But this is a multifaceted issue, and we have to address all aspects of it.

Somebody asked what can we do and what can the Commission do. The Commission can do a lot, if it has the mind to do it. But in the final analysis, if we're going to move toward media democracy in this country, it will be as a result of a grass roots movement. And don't get frustrated or depressed when I say that. People throw up their hands, oh, this is the 21st century. You can't do a grass roots movement any more. It was a grass roots movement that defeated Michael Powell's rules to loosen media consolidation four years ago.

(Audience applause.)

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It was 3 million Americans contacting the FCC. When I went there six years ago, I didn't think 3 million Americans knew there was a place called the Federal Communications Commission, but they found out and told us. I think the environment is better now than when Powell's rules were defeated. It's a new era. It's an era of more oversight. We have to continue playing defense. People who feel like a lot of you feel, and like I feel, we have to defeat any bad new rules that may be proposed; but we can go on the offensive now. And I think the environment of this country is ready for it, and really take some proactive steps to return some public interest obligations to our broadcasting community. And I think it's a high priority that we do that.

With that, the evening is late. I really thank you all for your patience and staying for the eloquence of your statements, and I would ask my colleagues, beginning with Commissioner Adelstein, if they had any closing remarks.

COMMISSIONER ADELSTEIN: I had some similar observations to you. It's interesting what we learned tonight. We certainly heard from the people of Portland that the media gets mixed reviews. It gets very positive reviews from itself. I thought of similar

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language, that it was Dickensian. I thought it was a tale of two cities. There's the media and there's the audience of the media, and they had very different perspectives.

It was great to hear the stories of localism from representatives of media itself. We do need to hear their perspective. I'm really glad they did show up and share with us. The caveat I have is that all those stories of localism came from people who are in the broadcasting industry or beneficiaries of the largess, all very noble undertakings that we heard from, but I suspect if it were as great as they made it out to be, we might have heard an equal outpouring from the actual viewers themselves and the listeners. After all, there are many more members of the audience than there are actual people in the broadcasting industry, but it didn't seem that way, from what we heard tonight.

I think it is a good discussion that we had, though. We thank everyone from every perspective that shared and took the time to come out here. We heard good stories on all different sides, from all different perspectives.

One unusual thing I might notice as we've gone across the country, we hear usually a lot of complaints about the local newspaper, but we didn't hear any

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tonight. I heard some positive things about the local newspaper. That's a tribute to the Blethens and to the good localism that I think we do get out of the local newspapers here.

So we'll take all this back to Washington as we try to promote localism, and our central obligation to you is to make sure that we do that. There's a lot of wisdom that we heard tonight in the presentations from the people. We thank you for sharing. We need solid recommendations that come out of this.

The Commission promised that this localism proceeding would result in recommendations and a task force report that should give us ideas on how to enhance localism, and they should have real teeth. I think that they should be based on what we heard today, rooted in the wisdom that we heard from today. So thank you all for sharing.

(Audience applause.)

COMMISSIONER COPPS: I guess, then, that that concludes the meeting. Let me thank all the members of our FCC staff who worked so hard to put this meeting together and to make it come off as well as it did.

(Audience applause.)

Thank you all, and have a good night. The meeting is adjourned.

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CERTIFICATE

I, Daphne G. Estes, a Notary Public in and for the State of Maine, hereby certify that the this hearing was stenographically reported by me and later reduced to print through Computer-Aided Transcription, and the foregoing is a full and true record to the best of my ability.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I subscribe my hand this

day of , 2007.

Dated at Old Orchard Beach, Maine.

Notary Public